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[New Research](#)

[School Tools](#)

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Treatment of cholinergic urticaria

6/8/2011

Q. For allen kaplan any new ideas or treatments for cholinergic urticaria? Thanks.

A. Dear Dr. Jaffer:

Thank you for your recent inquiry. I have forwarded your inquiry to Dr. Kaplan. As soon as we receive his response, we will forward it to you.

Thank you again for your inquiry.

Sincerely,
Phil Lieberman, M.D.

We have received a response from Dr. Allen Kaplan, which is copied below. Thank you again for your inquiry, and we hope this response is helpful to you.

Sincerely,
Phil Lieberman, M.D.

Response from Dr. Allen Kaplan:

Dear Phil,

There is nothing radically new for the treatment of cholinergic urticaria, and there are a small group of patients that do not respond to anything. Fortunately, that is uncommon. I would start with generic Cetirizine 10 mg at 4 times a day, decrease if that stops it to the lowest dose that works, or increase to 6/ day if a partial response is obtained. You can buy a bottle of about 300 for \$35 at Costco. If that fails, I would switch to first generation antihistamines and even though they are related, I would return to Hydroxyzine 50 mg q.i.d before giving up on antihistamines. It is not known to respond to steroid or cyclosporine. In desperation, I would try omalizumab.

Sincerely,
Allen Kaplan, M.D.

Key Words: cholinergic urticaria

[Back](#)